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10 ORIENTATION--information especially likely to be needed by users of a file as a frame of reference for understanding the materials classified elsewhere; organization of the file, special coding decisions, and evaluation of the file.

GUIDE TO THE ON13 SANTA CRUZ FILE

[The Santa Cruz Islands, part of the British Solomon Island Protectorate, are scattered over an area of some 15,000 square miles of the Pacific Ocean, just north of the New Hebrides Islands. Their geographical coordinates are roughly 165° 30' - 167° 30' East longitude and 9° 30' - 11° 45' South latitude. The Santa Cruz group consists of a complex of volcanic islands, true atolls and raised atolls, chief among which is the volcanic island of Santa Cruz, the largest of the group as well as its financial center. Twenty-five miles to the north is a small chain of coral islets called the Reef Islands, also a part of the Santa Cruz group, as well as the island of Tinakula (bearing a very active volcano) located midway between Santa Cruz and the Reef Islands, the Duff Islands sixty miles northeast of the Reefs and finally the relatively large islands of Utupua and Vanikoro, respectively forty and sixty miles south of Santa Cruz.

The inhabitants of the Santa Cruz islands speak eight different languages; on the Duff Islands and western Reef Islands the people speak a Polynesian language; on the eastern Reefs and Santa Cruz itself, four local languages are spoken which constitute an independent language family; on Utupua and Vanikoro three languages of the Malayo-Polynesian linguistic stock are spoken.

At the time that Davenport did his fieldwork on Santa Cruz Island (between 1958-1960), the entire island complex was composed of some 7,000 people, most of whom were concentrated along the north coast of Santa Cruz and in the eastern Reef Islands.

Settlements in the islands were composed of closely grouped houses, arranged, near the beach areas, in a row as on Santa Cruz itself or sometimes around a village square as on Vanikoro Island. These villages were surrounded by stone walls which served the dual purpose of delineating the village boundaries as well as serving as protective fortifications against outside attack. The houses were apparently of two types, round houses with conical roofs which were the older and more traditional type and rectangular gabled roof types of apparently more recent origin. Separate club houses were maintained for both men and women which were usually located somewhat apart from the residential village. Special spirit houses were also to be found in most villages.

Each village generally had its own chief and sometimes one chief would rule over four or five villages (1: Graebner, p. 109). On Vanikoro the chief system was highly developed, probably attributable to Polynesian influence from Tikopia. In addition to the village chief a number of other individuals in each settlement belonged to the rank of chief and enjoyed considerable respect and prestige. The chiefs of the entire group constituted a "closed corporation" and did not take part in the quarrels of their subjects. Speiser claims never to have met a true chief in the Santa Cruz Islands during his visit there in 1911-1912. He says that apparently all the men of the village together decided questions of external policy, although he does admit that some form of leadership did exist which was exerted through the influence of the most important and wealthiest man in the village whose actual status was that of a village elder or chairman in the men's house (2: Speiser, p. 100).

The political relationship of one village to another rested on constant mistrust. No native would think of leaving his village unarmed. On the island of Vanikoro, according to D'Urville there was a type of permanent confederation or alliance of villages, one block of several villages united against another.

The ON13 Santa Cruz file consists of six sources of which two are translations from the German (1: Graebner and 2: Speiser). The basic sources for the file are 1: Graebner and 2: Speiser, the latter serving to fill in gaps and inaccuracies in the Graebner study. Graebner, an ethnologist and a leader in the German Historical School which propounded the "Kulturkreise" theory of the development of civilization, wrote his study probably in the late 1890's or early 1900's, based primarily on Wilhelm Joest's field notes in conjunction with the collection of Santa Cruz objects in the Rautenstrauch-Joest Museum in Cologne, and on the available literature. It deals in great part with material culture, but does contain data on social organization, economy, and religion. Speiser's study, written by an ethnologist, is based on six week's fieldwork at Graciosa Bay in Nitendi (Santa Cruz), and supplemented with the addition of new material compiled by W. Foy from the literature and museums. The author's main interest was in establishing the cultural relations of the Santa Cruz Islands. Sources 3: Davenport, 4: Davenport, and 6: Beasley all deal with the red-feather currency system of the Santa Cruz Islands and changes resulting therein from the competition of Australian money with the native currency system. Sources 3 and 4: Davenport were written by a well known professional anthropologist, while 6: Beasley was written by an individual of unknown academic background. 5: Davenport presents a detailed census of Santa Cruz Island taken by the author himself during his fieldwork on the

island. The source gives a complete census of each household, with data on age, sex, kin relationship and sib membership of each individual.

The file as a whole will be found generally useful for cross-cultural purposes, however, it should be noted that much of the ethnography in the file is based on the Santa Cruz Islands as they existed around the turn of the century. The file was processed between 1961-1964.]